

Music at Valley Road School

Intent

At Valley Road we want our children to love music; to enjoy performing it; and to love creating it. We want them to recognise the important role it plays in people's lives and encourage them to have the opportunity to learn an instrument and to use music technology.

Our vision, at Valley Road Primary School, is to give children access to an engaging and fun music curriculum reflecting the world they live in now, but at the same time giving them access to musical styles throughout history. Children are able to listen and appraise a variety of musical styles alongside performing pieces and creating their own compositions through the use of technology. To achieve this all children access a variety of musical games, songs, instruments, music workshops, and extra-curricular activities giving them practical hands-on experience.

We hope children continue to grow in confidence as they progress through the musical curriculum and become enthusiastic in their responses to music. Added to this we want children to become more independent learners within this area, reflect upon their learning and develop resilience within the musical world.

As a school, these are our aims:

- To encourage awareness, enjoyment and appreciation of music in all its forms.
- To develop imagination and creativity.
- To help children of all abilities develop positive attitudes and to experience success and satisfaction in music.
- To offer opportunities to sing, play instruments, compose, listen and appraise.
- To recognise that music is a universal language for all, irrespective of race, religion or gender

Singing skills

A singing culture is established and nurtured within the school. Children and adults in the school will be encouraged to sing whenever appropriate to aid well-being and health as well as musical outcomes. There is a school choir, regular singing assemblies, musical performance. The school is also a base for Rock Choir so parents can themselves enjoy singing.

Instrumental skills

Children will be taught to play a wide-ranging variety of songs and to use their voices expressively. They should have the opportunity to play both tuned and un-tuned instruments with increasing control and should rehearse and perform with others, with an awareness of audience.

Composing skills

Children will create musical patterns and will be shown how to explore, select and organise musical ideas, recording these in a variety of ways, (e.g.: pictorial score, by means of an iPad, video or using notation).

Appraising skills

Children will be given the opportunity to explore and explain their own ideas and feelings about Music, using Music, dance, expressive language and Musical vocabulary. They will analyse and compare sounds and will become confident at suggesting improvements for their own work and that of others.

Listening and applying knowledge and understanding

Children should be able to listen with concentration and to internalise and recall sounds with increasing aural memory. They will develop a growing awareness of the interrelated dimensions of music. They will learn that time and place can influence the way music is created, performed and heard, that music is produced in different ways and is described through invented and standard notations which will be applied appropriately throughout their musical journey in school.

Music Implementation

- Children at Valley Road participate in a weekly/bi-weekly music lesson
- At Valley Road, we make use of the online Musical resource Charanga for delivery of music across the school.
- Charanga planning is used by teachers to drive children's development within music. Every year group will build upon the learning from prior year groups therefore developing depth of understanding and progression of skills.
- This serves as a base to aid and enhance our teaching but is not intended to be rigidly adhered to.
- Teachers should make professional judgements about when to adapt, miss out or add additional materials where this would benefit learning.
- Lessons provide opportunities for children to develop practical skills and progress by listening and appraising, singing, playing, composing, and performing.
- We promote an enjoyment and foster interest of music through regular singing practice, musical workshops, and other extra- curricular opportunities such as the school choir and performance for parents/the community.
- Pupils experiencing difficulties will be given extra encouragement by working in a small group with the teacher/ support staff or with a more musically able child.
- Our foundation assessment tracker allows us to use data to inform future teaching and learning.

- As well as music lessons in class, whole school singing sessions take place weekly and are usually led by the music subject leader.
- Pupils are given the opportunity to listen to a range of music through various in and out of school opportunities
- Performances take place within various school activities and are integral to the school ethos. We also hold an annual performance assembly where all school musicians can perform for parents/grandparents and their peers
- The Headteacher leads regular whole school assemblies which include music appreciation.
- Charanga can be supplemented by the subject leaders and the teacher's own input to match and compliment the creative curriculum. The scheme also provides the necessary details, activities, accompaniments and recordings to support our music teaching.
- Music skills and skills progression are monitored, as is the delivery of music.

Resources:

We have a range of music equipment and resources that can easily be moved around the school.

There are a full class set of glockenspiels and a number of other tuned instruments.

We have a piano and keyboard available for use.

Every class can access music via their Alpha Board and there is a PA system that can be used in the hall if needed. We also have microphones and leads.

The school class set of iPads have music apps installed. As the pupils move up the school much of the curriculum can be delivered through Garageband.

Access to Charanga resources is available to all staff.

We link to music via the internet and sites such as YouTube.

EYFS

Expressive arts and design is one of the seven areas of the early years foundation stage and is used to develop a child's imagination, creativity and their ability to use media and materials. Children do this in range of ways including singing songs and making music, dancing, playing with colours, textures and design. Through Expressive Arts children are taught to sing songs, make music and dance. Children are given opportunities to experiment with ways of changing sound and develop an understanding of pulse rhythm and pitch. Children follow a scheme of work from Charanga Music School and enjoy listening and responding to different styles of music, learning to sing, joining in with nursery rhymes and action songs which leads to playing classroom instruments and performing for others. Children are also encouraged to use everyday objects to make music and create sound, children enjoy exploring our music wall outdoors and experiment with sound using objects made from different materials such as wood, metal and plastic.

Children experiment with water butts, kettles and pans, piping, guttering, bin lids and many different types of beaters.

Music Impact

The impact of this Music curriculum will lead to outstanding progress over time across key stages relative to a child's individual starting point and their progression of skills. Those children with a particular interest or aptitude in music will be given the opportunity to extend their education in a variety of ways, for example, singing club, instrumental performances in assembly. Children will therefore be expected to leave Valley Road reaching at least age expected expectations for Music.

Our Music curriculum will hopefully foster a love and increasing enthusiasm for the subject amongst our children, and a potential for life- long musical study.